

Ants Class

Summer 1 Newsletter

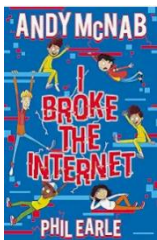


This newsletter aims to set out the key information to be shared about this half term. We will keep you up to date on any extra information on our class page and through text messages.

Our learning in April and May:

Our topic for this half term is '**Ancient Egypt** and will be focused on key achievements of Ancient Egyptian civilisation. Within this unit, children will look at:

- Where and when did the earliest civilisations begin? What do they have in common?
- Who were the Ancient Egyptians and how was the society set up?
- How important was the River Nile in Ancient Egypt and how has it influenced life today?
- How did agricultural achievements improve the life of Ancient Egyptians?
- Why was the scribe important in Egyptian society?
- How did the Egyptians prepare the body for the afterlife?
- How were the pyramids built?

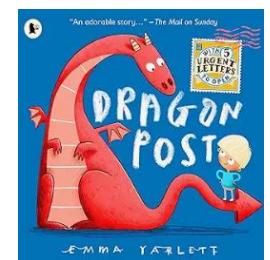


Class Book:

This half term, we are reading 'I broke the internet' by Andy McNab and Phil Earle

English:

We will begin the half term with a week-long poetry unit based on the poem 'The Magic box' by Kit Wright. Children will then look at formal and informal correspondence using the book 'Dragon Post' by Emma Yarlett. Finally, we will write a recount of our residential trip to Lea Green.



Spellings will be given on **Mondays** (in the back of the reading journal) and tested on **Fridays**. These spellings are also taught in class.

Maths:

Our focus for this half term will be position and direction then decimals.

It will include:

- Recognising, plotting and drawing shapes on a coordinate grid.
- Representing tenths and hundredths on a place value grid
- Dividing numbers by 10 and 100 (leading to a decimal)
- Partition, compare and order decimals
- Round decimals to the nearest whole number

Children are expected to know their times tables, up to 12 x 12.

Other curriculum areas include:

- Science: Electricity
- PE – Tennis (Tuesday) Hockey (Thursday)
- Music – Glockenspiels
- PSHE – Digital wellbeing
- Religious Education – Hindus in Britain today
- Computing – programming
- DT – Moving books (mechanical unit)
- French – There is no French this half term (this will resume in Summer 2)

Supporting learning at home:

- **Reading:** Every child needs to read every day; including weekends. In Year 4, children should aim to read for at least 15-20 minutes and talk to an adult about what they have read. Children will be given a reading journal to record their reading. During this half term, children will be supported in setting up and organising this journal and they should be in school **every day**. Please continue to support and encourage regular reading and recording wherever possible.
- **Times Tables:** Please ensure children practise using TTrockstars (login information is in the reading journal), hit the button (<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>) or maths frame MTC check (<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>)
- **Homework:** Children will be set weekly homework on a Wednesday which will be due back the following Monday. It will follow this **Wednesday-Monday** pattern throughout the year. You may support your child in tasks but please ensure if they are struggling that they know they can ask us for help.
 - Children are welcome to do their homework in school, during lunchtime, if they do not have time at home. Homework should support learning, not cause stress. If your child finds it difficult, please stop and bring it into school for support.

Useful information:

Coats: Please make sure your child brings a coat so we can go outside!

PE: Children need to bring in a full PE kit to change in school. As the weather starts to get warmer, we recommend shorts and hats in addition to trousers, T-shirts and jumper or hoodies. Please also make sure that your child has a named water bottle.

Please ensure everything is clearly named so it can be returned.

Key Days

- Monday – Homework to be handed in
- Tuesday and Thursday – PE
- Friday – Spelling test

If you have any questions to ask, or have information to tell us, please get in touch via the school office (julie.carter@littleaton.derbyshire.sch.uk or 01332 831471). We will also be available on the playground at the end of the school day.

Thank you in advance for your support,

Karen Gardiner, Paul Schumann and the Year 4 team